

Preamble to the Application

The Grace Churches Network is a familial collection of churches. Hopefully long before you got to this application, you have gotten to know the people and leaders and churches in our Network. We want to be a visible manifestation of the Family of Jesus through multiple churches in our region. The three core principles that frame our network are "Biblical Truth, Biblical Relationships & Biblical Mission."

We want to start and continue in relationship with you and your church family. If you don't have any relationships with people, leaders and/or churches in the Grace Churches Network we ask that you don't fill out this application and that you get to know us first. If you don't know where to start, please reach out to the leaders on the GraceChurchesNetwork.org website.

One last important note, the Grace Churches Network is a "Doing Business As" [DBA] designation of the "Grace Brethren Conference of Southern California – Arizona, Inc." The Conference is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has been recognized by the IRS since October 1990.

General Info

- Church Name Address/Phone/Email Address
- Website/ Facebook /Social Media
- Who is filling out this application? Role with the church?
- Please give a brief history of your church and a description of it's current ministries. Feel free to include any helpful pictures.
- Why is your church interested in joining the Grace Churches Network?
- How do you think being part of the Grace Churches Network will benefit your church?
- How do you think your church will be a benefit to the other member churches?
- Is your church a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code? If not, is your church organized in such a way to get the IRS automatic exemption for churches? (See page 2 of <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p1828.pdf>)
- Is your church part of the Charis Fellowship (<http://charisfellowship.us>)? If not, are you considering becoming a member church?

Doctrine, Organization and Leadership

- Please read the [Charis Commitment to Common Identity \(http://charisfellowship.us/cci\)](http://charisfellowship.us/cci). Is your leadership and congregation aligned with this? Does it raise any questions or concerns?
- What is the leadership structure of your church? What provisions are set up for the organization, propagation, and orderly transition of leadership?
- Please provide a copy of your church's current doctrinal statement.
- Please provide a copy of your church's current guiding/organizing documents (constitution, bylaws, agreements, etc.).

Practices

- Please read the [Charis Commitment to Common Mission](http://charisfellowship.us/page/ccm-en) (<http://charisfellowship.us/page/ccm-en>). What is your church doing / what will your church do to develop church leaders, plant new churches, and engage in integrated ministry in your community & beyond?
- Please read the [Grace Churches Network Bylaws](http://gracechurchesnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/GBConferenceSoCal-AZ-Bylaws-2017.pdf) (<http://gracechurchesnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/GBConferenceSoCal-AZ-Bylaws-2017.pdf>). Are you willing to abide by these? Does any portion of the bylaws raise questions or concerns?
- Are you willing to submit annual reports and dues as requested by the Grace Churches Network?
- Please note Article II, Section 2 of the bylaws regarding Purposes. In what ways do you intend encourage and cooperate with others in the Grace Churches Network?

Concluding Affirmation

This application is submitted with honesty and integrity in all respects:

Name of Person Submitting the Application & Personal Email Address

Email Submissions for Applicants:

Please email the following items to info@gracechurchesnetwork.org

- 1) Please share your church's guiding documents (constitution, agreement, covenant, any state filed documents, etc.)
- 2) Please share your church's current doctrinal statement (if not included above)
- 3) Any pictures that would be helpful for us to understand your church and ministries
- 4) Any additional documents or materials that you feel would help further explain your church (if desired)

Online Application and more information can be found at GraceChurchesNetwork.org/apply